

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is related to the following commonly-owned co-pending patent application: "DISCHARGE STOPPER UNITS FOR MOWING DECKS," Serial No. 10/127,873, Attorney Docket No. 0114154-002.

Please add the following paragraph beginning at page 10, line 11:

Fig. 10 illustrates that a guide or member 74 extends from each insert 64 and 66 at a point located near the inner ends of the inserts. To attach inserts 64 and 66 to ducts 70 and 72, respectfully, the first step is to insert a larger radius portion of members 74 through a larger diameter portion of a keyed aperture 76. Once the larger diameter head of member 74 is inserted through aperture 76, the inserts 64 and 66 are slidably moved against the ducts 70 and 72, respectively, until a threaded hole 78 of inserts 64 and 66 comes into alignment with a mounting hole 80 provided on ducts 70 and 72. Once holes 78 and 80 are aligned, a pin, screw, bolt or other type of fastener 81 is used to fixedly attach inserts 64 and 66 to chambers 54 and 56 of the housing 52 of the mower deck 50. Likewise, to remove inserts 64 and 66, the fasteners are removed from threaded holes 78 of inserts 64 and 66 and the inserts are slidably moved in the opposite direction until the larger diameter portion of members 74 can be dropped through the larger diameter portion of keyed aperture 76. While the method of attachment is easy to perform, the attachment system is sturdy and withstands the rigors of repeated and continuous mowing.